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Report of the fourth session of the

INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY COMMISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY SURVEY AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Rome, 23-25 October 1974

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ROME, 1974

REPORT

of the

Fourth Session of the

INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY COMMISSION

Executive Committee for the Implementation
of the International Indian Ocean Fishery
Survey and Development Programme

Rome, 23-25 October 1974

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, October 1974

PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

This is the final version of the Report as approved by the Fourth Session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission Executive Committee for the Implementation of the International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme.

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FAO Department of Fisheries
FAO Regional Fishery Officers
Members of the Executive Committee
Members of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission
Other interested nations and organizations

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OPENING OF THE SESSION

1 The Indian Ocean Fishery Commission Executive Committee for the Implementation of the International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme held its Fourth Session from 23 to 25 October 1974 at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy. Thirteen nations participated in the session, including seven nations that are members of the Committee. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme also participated in the session. A list of participants is given in Appendix C to this report.

2 The session was chaired by Mr. N. Odero (Kenya). The representatives were welcomed in an address by Mr. F.E. Popper, Assistant Director-General (Fisheries). The full text of his address is given in Appendix D to this report.

3 One minute's silence was observed to honour the memory of the late Chairman of the Committee and of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission, Mr. C.G. Setter, who greatly contributed to the work of the Commission and the Indian Ocean Programme.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

4 The Committee adopted the agenda reproduced in Appendix A. The documents which were available to the Committee are listed in Appendix B. The Committee was informed that Document IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.16 would be considered under agenda item 4.

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY SURVEY AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

(a) Progress report of the Programme Leader

5 The Committee was informed by the Programme Leader of the progress made since its last session in Colombo (Sri Lanka) in October 1972. It was noted that the Programme entered its fully operational phase in January 1973, with a budget of $2,097,500.

6 The Committee was informed that the staff of the Programme had been brought to the full strength of six members, with the appointment of S.K. Banerji (India) as Senior Fishery Officer (Stock Assessment and Statistics), A. Labon (Poland) as Senior Fishery Officer (Economics/Investment Analysis), N. Gustafsson (Sweden) as Senior Fishery Officer (Industry) and S. Hayasi (Japan) as Senior Fishery Officer (Resource Management).

7 It was also noted that J.C. Marr resigned from the Programme in January 1974 and was replaced by H.C. Winsor, formerly Director of Operations, Department of Fisheries, as Programme Leader. P. Bromiley who also resigned from the Programme was replaced by N. Gustafsson and L.I.J. Silva has been promoted to Deputy Programme Leader.

8 The Committee's attention was drawn to Item 9 of the Progress Report (IOFC:X/4/74/4) and in particular to 9.II.1, 9.II.5 regarding which separate reports had been tabled.

9 The Committee was referred to Item 10 concerning activities which have been the result of requests from member countries, and was informed that the Programme had sufficient flexibility and ability to respond to more requests of this nature.

10 In regard to Item 12 - Future Programme Activities - it was noted that staff members were shortly visiting Indonesia to review the progress of a fisheries project and Iran to advise on investment opportunities and on the setting up of a fisheries project division in the Agricultural Development Bank.

11 The delegate from the United States of America commended the progress and in particular the quality of the documentation and the scope and range of studies and activities undertaken in terms of geographical area, discipline and problems. While expressing appreciation of the work done so far and the assistance the Programme has been able to generate from other sources such as NORAD, he wished to know what planning has been undertaken for the future of the Programme, particularly in the light of the changing conditions in the region.

12 The delegate from Australia expressed his appreciation of the impressive documentation.

13 The Committee heard from the delegate from India a brief survey of India's problems in fisheries development and its priorities in the field and the urgent need for development. In this context he requested the Programme's assistance for a detailed study of the fisheries situation and development possibilities and extended an invitation to the Programme Leader and other officials to visit his country. He was happy to note the impending North Arabian Sea Survey.

14 The delegate from Kenya expressed his appreciation of the work of the Programme.

15 The delegate from Iraq referred in brief to Iraq's fishery development plans and stressed the need to consider conservation measures.

16 The Committee was informed that the present phase of the project ends in December 1976. Documentation was being updated, the validity of previous conclusions and recommendations were being re-examined and a clearer picture of future activities in the light of changing circumstances is expected to emerge by the time of the next session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission to be held next year.

(b) Programme reports

17 The Committee heard from the Programme staff brief introductions of the programme reports (IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 16). The Committee was informed that the study on joint-ventures is not yet completed and that the first draft of the report on Government fishery cooperatives and enterprises has been received. The Committee noted the importance of the above-mentioned studies and of the study currently underway on mechanization of fisheries in relation to the greatly increased costs of energy and engines and spare parts. The Committee was also informed that the Programme welcomes proposals for specific studies both of a general nature and of interest to individual countries.

18 The delegate from India commended the publications, but suggested that the proposed study on mechanization of fisheries should concentrate itself on alternative sources of energy.

19 The delegate from the United Arab Emirates noted that no recent studies had been made in relation to the Gulf. He expressed his country's interest in joining other nations and international agencies to produce more food. He gave in brief the problems facing U.A.E. in promoting fishery development, particularly lack of know-how and expertise. He noted with satisfaction the proposed North Arabian Sea Survey, the Gulf project and the Kuwait Sub-regional Fisheries Training Centre.

20 The delegate from Sri Lanka commended the studies and stressed the importance of the studies on institutions and mechanization. He suggested that it would be useful to list the projects and activities that have resulted from the work of the Programme and make an assessment of their impact in the region, including investment. In regard to joint ventures, while welcoming the study, he pointed out that conditions vary from country to country.

21 The delegate from the United States of America noted with satisfaction the nature of the studies planned or being undertaken in the light of changing circumstances. He agreed with the delegate from Sri Lanka on the need to provide an evaluation of the Programme activities including a quantification of results where possible. He also noted the Programme's links with institutes in the region and stressed the need to strengthen these links. He underlined the usefulness of the joint-venture study and hoped that it would particularly include information and analyses of relevant case-studies.

22 The Sri Lanka delegate raised the question of studies on processing and marketing and suggested the compilation of a bibliography of such publications.

23 The Director of the Fishery Industries Division informed the Committee of the actions the Department is taking on the problems of utilization and processing of tropical fish products.

24 The representative of UNDP stated that the UNDP was pleased with the progress of the project and its usefulness as a mechanism to deal with matters on a broader basis and which cannot be handled on an individual country basis. It is obvious that some of the activities will go beyond 1976, and if there is sufficient support and appreciation of the Programme activities by Governments, the UNDP will consider favourably support for extension of the Programme commensurate with the availability of funds.

(c) Progress reports

(i) Gulf Fishery Survey and Development Project

25 The Committee noted with approval the progress made towards the implementation of the project. It was noted that the preparatory phase will end in June 1975 and the implementation phase will follow immediately.

26 Three delegations emphasized the importance of the participation in the survey of all countries bordering the Gulf. The migratory nature of fishery resources in the Gulf makes a joint action of all bordering countries imperative if the survey is to give meaningful results. Countries which already declared their participation in the survey are prepared for discussions on their financial participation in the project. FAO has been requested to finalize negotiations with those countries which have not yet confirmed their participation.

27 The draft project document for the survey is already prepared and has been sent to agencies concerned for review and for onforwarding to the governments. The Committee agreed that in order to decide on the financial contribution from the participating countries an intergovernmental meeting should be convened in one of the countries. Delegates directly concerned requested copies of the draft document.

28 Some delegates requested that the countries concerned be kept informed about the progress of the project. The Secretariat will consider ways of informing the countries on the progress of work of the Indian Ocean Programme as a whole on a regular basis.

(ii) North Arabian Sea Pelagic Fish Assessment Survey

29 The Progress Report was introduced by the IOP staff. The Norwegian research vessel DR FRIDTJOF NANSEN, made available for the survey by NORAD, will leave Norway in December 1974 and start operations in the Arabian Sea in January 1975. It was emphasized that follow-up activities in the form of commercial-type fishing are planned to commence in the Arabian Sea even before the survey is finished.

30. The delegate of Japan informed the Committee that plans are being made for sending a Japanese research vessel to the Arabian Sea for about four months in late 1975 and beginning 1976. This is, however, subject to approval by the Government of funds for acoustic equipment for the vessel. The findings of the research vessel would be made available to FAO and would be incorporated in the overall survey report.

31 Gratitude was expressed to the Norwegian Government and NORAD for the very generous financing of survey and development projects to the benefit of developing countries. Appreciation was also expressed to the Government of Japan for offering the vessel for the North Arabian Sea Survey.

32 The need for more research vessels to cover adequately the area to be surveyed was emphasized. The possibilities of using the RASTRELLIGER were discussed. The Programme will approach the Government of India for release of the RASTRELLIGER for the survey on a part-time basis. In view of the heavy workload for the RASTRELLIGER, the delegate of India stated that he hoped efforts would be made to find another vessel for this part of the survey if it is possible. He added that there would be continuing need for the vessel after the current project has ended.

33 The Committee was informed about courses on modern stock assessment techniques which would be of interest to the member countries.

(iii) Kuwait Sub-regional Fisheries Training Centre

34 The Committee was referred to document IOFC:X/4/74/7 and was informed of the progress made so far. It was noted that the proposed project has the support of seven Gulf countries. The draft project document has been dispatched to the FAO Regional Office for the Near East where, after translation into Arabic, it will be circulated among the countries concerned. Thereafter a meeting of the Board of Directors of the project will be held in February/March 1975, in the region, so that arrangements could be made for training activities to commence in the latter half of 1975. The Committee expressed its support of the project and appreciation of the progress made so far.

(d) Report of the FAO/SIDA Bay of Bengal Mission

35 The Programme Leader explained the background circumstances that led to the proposals and that the Mission Report had been discussed earlier in a meeting of SIDA representatives and the delegates to the Committee on Fisheries from India, Thailand, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. The Committee was informed that an IBRD Mission to Pakistan has recently shown interest in, and appreciation of, the integrated approach used by the Mission to the problem of artisanal fisheries and fishing communities. The representative of Sweden stated that SIDA prefers approaches that cover all the vital components needed for simultaneous assistance, with the goal of improving living conditions of people in the area. Sweden welcomed any comments and proposals which could lead to improvements.

36 The Sri Lanka delegate welcomed the report. He asked for a geographical spread of the different projects and welcomed a training institute in his country.

37 The delegate of India also welcomed the report and asked for implementation as soon as possible. He hoped that all of the countries would participate in the work to be undertaken.

38 The delegate of Kenya approved the idea of a regional programme and hoped that similar efforts would be directed to other regions of the Indian Ocean.

39 The delegate from USA stressed the importance of adequate support to the development of fishery statistics in the region. He also inquired about the conclusions of the mission that had led to the relative size and costs of the different proposed projects within the programme. The delegate from India explained the importance of the various proposed projects and stated that the cost of the resources survey was relatively high, due to the cost of the ship and equipment. The representative from Sweden stated that cost estimates are very rough and were only a guideline. The aim of the mission was to identify projects with great impact but no priority has been made so far.

40 The following discussion was on whether any priority could be given to any specific activity and there was a feeling that giving a priority might be in conflict with the basic proposed approach. In order to obtain financial support for the various projects, however, it may be necessary to establish priorities.

41 The delegate from Sri Lanka pointed out that the report proposes new activities as well as a strengthening of existing programmes. He said the survey was necessary for further development. The improvement of fishing communities is the next important task.

42 The delegate from Australia considered the report as a very good approach.

43 The delegate from India said that this is the first time an integrated approach has been made to the problem of fisheries in the Bay of Bengal area. He felt that the problem cannot be solved unless all its components are attacked simultaneously and therefore laying down priorities was not really possible. However, if priorities had to be drawn up due to financial considerations, the resources survey should be ranked first and the development of fishing communities second.

44 The delegate from the Republic of Korea agreed with the delegate from India and recommended a practical and industrial approach in the area. He said that Korea would be able to supply instructors for the needed training.

45 The delegate from the United Arab Emirates asked for a similar approach in other areas. He ranked the survey first and the development of fishing communities second.

46 Summarizing, the delegates endorsed the proposals and looked to their early implementation. The Committee felt the resource survey would need to have a first priority and the assistance in artisanal fishery would receive a second priority, followed by training programmes.

(e) Programme for marine fisheries development in East Africa

47 The Committee considered document IOFC:X/4/74/9 and Addendum I to the same document. Its special attention was drawn to the proposed survey of the waters extending from 5°N to Mozambique and Madagascar and including Mauritius.

48 The Committee was informed that the UNDP had agreed to the release of funds from its rouble account and arrangements had been made to recruit a Consultant to prepare the plans and designs for the survey, which has been tentatively scheduled to commence in September 1975.

49 The delegates endorsed the proposal and approved the suggestions made namely, that

(1) A fishery development programme for the East African region be drawn up.

(2) Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar and Mauritius and, possibly, Mozambique should be included.

(3) The Indian Ocean Programme convene a meeting of the countries concerned in early 1975 to discuss and draw up a basic project document.

(4) The document should not only reflect the need for resource surveys but should also contain proposals for the development and exploitation of such resources, including infrastructure, manpower and training and markets.

(f) Future activities

50 The Committee considered Item 12 - Future Programme Activities - in the Progress Report of the Programme Leader (IOFC:X/4/74/4). Delegates were informed that in addition to the activities listed, a suggestion made by UNDP for a fishery resource survey off South Indonesia, North-western and Western Australia was also being developed, as part of a larger programme of resource surveys of the Southern Indian and Pacific Oceans.

Committee endorsed the suggestion, while the delegate from Australia indicated ...ught the Australian Government may be interested in participation in an overall ...rogramme but would need to have a specific proposal before a firm decision could be made.

The following suggestions were also made for inclusion in future activities:

(a) Preparation of feasibility reports on specific aspects of fisheries such as production, marketing, with specific reference to India.

(b) Inclusion of India in the proposed small-boat tuna longline fishery trials.

(c) Inclusion of India in the proposed survey of harbour needs and sites.

(...) Development of a regional fishery development project in the Red Sea as proposed ...t the Twelfth FAO Near East Regional Conference held in Amman, Jordan (August-September 1974).

53 The Committee noted with appreciation the willingness of Japan and Korea to increase their assistance for fisheries development in the region and their desire to work closely with the Indian Ocean Programme; and also noted the offer of Iraq to assist with scientists in the Gulf Survey.

54 It was pointed out that while some of the proposed activities will have an immediate impact, others will clearly continue beyond 1976. The Secretariat was requested to prepare a document evaluating past activities and indicating what needs to be done both in terms of improvement and relevance, as well as plans for the future, for presentation at the next session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission to be held in 1975.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

55 The Committee discussed the recommendation made by the IPFC/IOFC Ad Hoc Working Party of Scientists on Stock Assessment of Tuna at its Second Session, held in Nantes, 16-18 September 1974, concerning assistance in the data collection of the tuna fisheries in the area (IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.16). It noted the concern expressed by the Working Party on the state of the tuna stocks in the area, and the constraints on the Working Party in providing accurate and up-to-date advice on these fisheries to IOFC and its member countries due to the serious inadequacy of the data available.

56 The Committee also noted the recommendation made by the Working Party for the strengthening of the IOFC secretariat, and supports its recommendation that as an interim emergency solution, the Indian Ocean Programme be urged to assist in obtaining the necessary catch statistical data for assessing the status of the stocks of tuna in the IOFC areas of concern.

57 The Committee was informed of the regional project in acoustics which had been approved by UNDP and will become operational in January 1975. The project will cover the Mediterranean, North Africa and the Near East, and in the first phase the services of an expert will be made available on request to assist in survey programmes and training. Phase II commencing 1977 provides for an Acoustic Research Centre to be established in the area. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the work done in this field and was pleased to note that the activity will be strengthened and continued.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

58 The Committee agreed that it would be unnecessary to hold its Fifth Session in June or July 1975 immediately before the Fourth Session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission, as suggested in document IOFC:X/4/74/2. The Committee further agreed that the precise date and venue of that session would depend on the progress of inter-sessional work of the Programme and would be considered at the Fourth Session of the IOFC.

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APPENDIX A

AGENDA

1 Opening of the session

2 Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the session

3 International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme

(a) Progress report of the Programme Leader

(b) Programme reports

(c) Progress reports on

(i) Gulf Fishery Survey and Development Project

(ii) North Arabian Sea Pelagic Fish Assessment Survey

(iii) Kuwait Sub-regional Fisheries Training Centre

(d) Report of FAO/SIDA Bay of Bengal Mission

(e) Programme for marine fisheries development in East Africa

(f) Future activities

4 Any other matters

5 Data and place of the next session

6 Adoption of the report

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APPENDIX B

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

IOFC:X/4/74/1	Annotated Agenda
IOFC:X/4/74/2	Annotated Provisional Agenda
IOFC:X/4/74/3	Provisional Timetable
IOFC:X/4/74/4	Progress report of the Programme Leader
IOFC:X/4/74/5	Progress report on the Gulf Fishery Survey and Development Project
IOFC:X/4/74/6	Progress report on the North Arabian Sea Survey
IOFC:X/4/74/7	Progress report on the Kuwait Sub-regional Fisheries Training Centre
IOFC:X/4/74/8	Report of the FAO/SIDA Bay of Bengal Mission
IOFC:X/4/74/9	Marine fisheries development - East Africa
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 1	List of documents
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 2	A review of the Indonesian shrimp fishery and its present development
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 3	Fishery resources of the Upper Bay of Bengal
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 4	A study of the feasibility of the canning of fish and shellfish in the Republic of Indonesia
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 5	Some notes on the assessment and management of Indonesian fisheries
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 6	Currency valuation, import control and fishing industry in Indian Ocean countries
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 7	A programme to develop the marine fisheries potential of Kenya and Tanzania
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 8	Mangrove forests and fisheries
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 9	Fishery Management issues in the Indian Ocean
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.10	Deleted (in preparation)
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.11	Frame surveys and associated sample survey designs for the assessment of marine fish landings
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.12	International Trade - Tuna, Shrimp, Crab, Fish Meal, Groundfish
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.13	Report of the Third Session of the IOFC Executive Committee
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.14	Information for participants
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.15	List of participants (provisional)
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf.16	Report of the Second Session of the IPFC/IOFC Ad Hoc Working Party of Scientists on Stock Assessment of Tuna, Nantes, France, 16-18 September 1974
IOFC:X/4/74/Inf. 17	Guidelines for Fishery Management

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APPENDIX C

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Secretary of the Committee	H. Rosa, Jr. Chief, Fishery Liaison Unit
Technical Officer	L.I.J. Silva Deputy Programme Leader
Technical Officer	A. Labon Senior Fishery Officer (Economist/Investment Analyst)
Technical Officer	N. Gustafsson Senior Fishery Officer (Industry)
Technical Officer	S. Hayasi Senior Fishery Officer (Resource Management Specialist)
Meeting Officer	Mary Clare de Freitas

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ADDRESS BY MR. F.E. POPPER
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL (FISHERIES)

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome you to the Fourth Session of the Executive Committee of the Indian Ocean Fishery Committee here in Rome and may I also say how much I felt it appropriate that you should have started this Session with a tribute to Mr. Cedric Setter who, unfortunately, is no longer with us in person, though I hope that he will remain with us in spirit. I think that this Committee, as other bodies with which he was associated, can only gain from continuing along the course which he always strived to steer. Mr. Setter was a man of high principles with a great devotion to duty and above all a man who was devoted to his friends and colleagues and to the fishery community as a whole. Whenever he could help, wherever he could see a way to help people to agree, he would do his utmost to do so and in a highly international field such as fishery this is a quality that we must all endeavour to emulate.

Mr. Chairman, the Committee is meeting after a lapse of two years and so it is the first session being held after the Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme has become fully operational. At the last session which I had the pleasure to attend in October 1972 in Sri Lanka it was still devoted to plans and activities in the main Phase - the operational phase of the Programme - but now we are in the operational phase and the task of the Committee has become more complex and perhaps more important in that you have to look not only at plans for the future but also at achievements in the past and draw your conclusions from achievements or indeed lack of achievements. Moreover, the task of the Committee has become more important also for reasons external to the Programme. Most of you, I think, have attended the sessions of the Committee on Fisheries during the last ten days or so and you will remember what the Director-General said about the general food situation and particularly about the problems that the developing countries face. Not only have the parameters of the problems changed - more people to feed, the lack of food due to poor harvests, difficulties of production owing to increasing costs, difficulties in marketing due to monetary and general instability - all have combined to make the problems of feeding the world population most desperate; and so those who are concerned with the production of food of all kinds including those of us here who are concerned with the production of protein foods from sea and inland waters must do their utmost to contribute to rapid and substantial improvement, and particularly with land sources being more and more fully utilized the Oceans become for many people the most obvious place where to look for rapid increases in production. The particular sea area with which you are concerned is one of those that still offer great possibilities.

The Indian Ocean Programme was the first of the inter-regional efforts towards fishery development and although our experience is still a trifle short it has shown us that this approach is both useful and flexible and FAO has indeed drawn the conclusion from this that a similar approach should be built in other areas and as you probably know already there are programmes similar to ours in the process of being implemented or planned in the South China Sea and in the Central East Atlantic. Indeed, these programmes have gained from the experience of the Indian Ocean Programme and have been able to move towards operational status rather more quickly. As I mentioned before, in the next couple of days you will be reviewing the work of the Indian Ocean Programme to date. You will note success and lack of success, quick delivery and delay but we hope that in the final analysis you will come to the conclusion that much has been accomplished despite the pioneering nature of the Programme and the degree of uncertainty which inevitably accompanies a pioneering activity. But you will, I think, also come to the conclusion that the hopes of the

originators have not been disappointed. Nevertheless I hope you will not be uncritical and look at the results of the work so far with a view to the future. You will examine whether the objectives as defined are attainable by the means available, whether either the objectives or the means need modification and also whether the emphasis on various aspects of development is right or needs adjustment.

I think, Mr. Chairman, this is all I have to say of any substance regarding the work that this session will undertake but before I conclude let me just say that I had the good fortune less than two weeks ago to be associated with a very tangible event connected with this Programme, namely the commissioning of the fishery research vessel DR FRIDTJOF NANSEN in Bergen, Norway. This vessel is being made available by the Norwegian Government through NORAD to FAO for use in field projects under a cost-sharing arrangement which is very generous on the part of the Norwegian Government and the first customer to benefit from this will be the Indian Ocean Programme which will have the use of the vessel for two years for the North Arabian Sea Survey. As I say, this was a very enjoyable event from many points of view. The ship turned out to be a very beautiful vessel, extremely well-equipped. The day of the commissioning was one of those very rare days in Bergen when the sun was shining! There was a great crowd of people both at the commissioning itself and the festivities that followed it including many important people in the public life of Norway and the spirit in this assembly was a very encouraging one particularly in these days. Norway, as you know, is experiencing a wave of prosperity having to do to some extent at least with the oil discoveries in the North Sea, but what impressed me was the feeling among the people - and I am not just talking about the people who professionally are concerned with aid to third-world countries but a lot of other people from public life, from industry, shipyards, and so on.

The impression I got was that they all feel a strong responsibility towards the third world, a strong responsibility for seeing that the prosperity that they are enjoying is reflected in improvements in the standard of living and the enjoyment of living available to people in less fortunate parts of the world and that they felt that FAO and its subsidiary organizations were the right instrument that they could use particularly in this particular field of fisheries to discharge these responsibilities that they felt.

Mr. Boerma, the Director-General, was present at the celebrations and I know that he had the same impression and was similarly elated. This, of course, is of interest to this Committee which is responsible for this important Programme and I hope that it will encourage you in your work. This is all I have to say. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity.

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